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THE UNITED STATES PATENT AND TRADEMARK OFFICE

In re the application:

Inventor(s): Gnadt, James J.

Serial No.: 10/780,046

Examiner: D. Howell

Filing Date: 02/17/2004

Art Unit: 3722

Title: WORKPIECE LOADING APPARATUS FOR MACHINE TOOL

Customer No.: 23549

Confirmation No.: 9671

December 22, 2006

Mail Stop Amendment
Commissioner for Patents
P.O. Box 1450
Alexandria, VA 22313-1450

AMENDMENT AND RESPONSE UNDER 37 C.F.R. §1.111

Sir:

Introductory Comments

In response to the first Office Action (mailed 09/28/2006), Applicant herewith submits the following amendments and remarks in an effort to fully address the rejections raised by the Examiner. No new matter has been added.

Attached to this paper please find a Certificate under 37 C.F.R. §3.73(b).

Kindly amend the application as follows.